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Agenda item 6

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN: ACTION FOR EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

Paragraph 5

After India, insert the Netherlands.

After Sweden, insert Spain.

Section E

After paragraph 112, insert the following paragraphs and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

17. International Trade Centre (ITC)

113. ITC will be contributing to the preparation of the 1994 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development and is the leading United Nations body for the preparation of the chapter on entrepreneurship and trade.

114. In December 1992, ITC launched a world-wide survey on national machineries and women's business associations in an effort to identify:

(a) The capacity of national machinery to address the issue of women in trade development with a view to more effectively integrating trade issues into Governments' planning, policy and strategy dialogues and to enhancing national machineries' ability to provide input into the processes

of national development planning, policy/strategy formulation, and project design and implementation, at public- and private-sector and grass-roots levels;

(b) Existing national economic environments in which entrepreneurs operate at different levels of trade, including intraregionally and overseas;

(c) The needs of women entrepreneurs and women in business.

115. Based on the results of that survey, ITC will provide technical input into regional preparations. With regard to the issue of women entrepreneurship development and trade, ITC has initiated a number of activities and is developing region-specific projects and technical models.

116. ITC has proposed that its Working Group on the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations investigate, inter alia, the implications of the Uruguay Round for the trade promotion and export development efforts of women entrepreneurs, with particular emphasis on market access and specific product groups of interest to the individual regions. In addition, a training programme will be conducted for women in business to make them aware of, and show them how they can best take advantage of the opportunities and challenges arising from the various protocols and agreements.

18. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

117. UNIDO is focusing its activities on enhancing women's role and participation in the economy, particularly in manufacturing. As an input into the regional preparations, UNIDO is currently implementing regional typology studies on the participation of women in manufacturing with a view to analysing patterns, determinants and future trends. In cooperation with the regional commissions and based on a gender-specific analysis of demographic, social, economic and institutional factors, regional and country-level strategies and plans of action will be formulated to enhance the participation of women in productive activities. The database resulting from those studies, as well as a user's manual, will be made available to the regional commissions for their use and dissemination.

118. Within the framework of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, an expert group meeting on women in food processing took place in January 1994 in the United Republic of Tanzania. Its recommendations will be an input into the regional preparatory conference.

119. UNIDO will continue to cooperate with non-governmental organizations in compiling and disseminating information on technology transfer to women entrepreneurs, with particular emphasis on environmentally sound technologies.

19. United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)

120. UNICRI is preparing an international bibliography on violence in the family, focusing on violence against women and children. The bibliography will comprise a collection of data and a qualitative analysis of the literature collected, and will be ready for distribution both on diskette and in hard copy towards the end of 1994. It is expected to improve the capacity for comparative research of persons involved in developing policies aimed at reducing the incidence of violence against women.

121. UNICRI is preparing an analysis of the data on women victims of crime which were collected during the 1992 international crime victim survey, involving a total of 30 countries. The survey questionnaire, inter alia, referred to the reasons for not reporting, the fear of crime, the activities of law enforcement agencies and existing mechanisms of victim support. One of the parameters used was gender, with specific reference to violent and sexual assaults, including rape.

20. United Nations Volunteers (UNV)

122. UNV specialists will be placed in the secretariats of the regional commissions to strengthen the structures responsible for coordinating and preparing the regional prpearatory conferences. Within ECA, UNV specialists are contributing to promotion and publicity activities for creating awareness as well as to the preparation of technical papers and reports. Similarly, support is being provided to ESCAP. Moreover, UNV experience to date, in collaboration with UNDP, in central and eastern Europe and the economies in transition will be an input into the European regional preparations. UNV will also support national preparations, particularly the preparation of national reports, in the region.

123. UNV has formulated a project as a framework to support the least developed and developing countries in preparing national reports for the Conference. Through expanded dialogue and wider collaboration, the project seeks to create a sustainable and irreversible process of change by optimising the community-level voice in both national policy and the national reports. The emphasis is on broadening channels of communication among community, municipal and national levels, non-governmental organizations, United Nations agencies and other institutions, and on identifying areas of need and future programmes of assistance. Assistance is provided, inter alia, in defining national and sectoral policies on gender issues; establishing or improving on existing gender-disaggregated information systems; reviewing the legal structure and its impact on women; and planning and designing promotional and consciousness-raising activities that would be supported by Governments as well as by both men and women.

21. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

124. IFAD is preparing a publication entitled Poverty and Rural Women, updating the initial issues and measures and analysing their impact on poverty alleviation. IFAD has played a global role in heightening the advocacy role of key women in developing countries through the organization of the Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women, held in Geneva in 1992. A follow-up meeting took place in February 1994 in Brussels.

125. Research is under way on the mechanisms of decision-making within farming households, highlighting rural women's coping strategies and their role in farm management and production. The research aims to provide operational means for a clearer targeting of beneficiaries in project design and execution, as well as more precise calculations of rural women's productive output for insertion in economic analysis, in order to increase the accuracy of projections in policy definitions.

126. IFAD has contributed a chapter on women and access to financial resources to the 1994 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development.